



Washington State
Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery

Central Seattle Drug Free Communities Coalition (CSDFCC)

Seattle Public Schools
c/o Seattle Neighborhood Group
1810 East Yesler Way
Seattle, Washington 98122

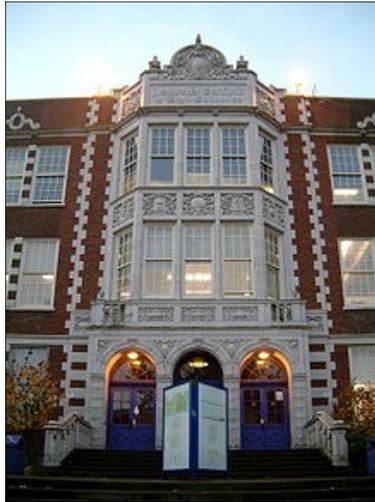
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CSDFCC's Mission:

"To unite the community in an effort to create a safe community free of alcohol, drugs and violence."



This photo is from an exhibit along South Jackson Street. It reflects the influence of local musicians and singers, especially from the African American community. Prominent residents of the Central District have included Jimi Hendrix, Quincy Jones, Ernestine Anderson, Sir Mix-a-Lot, Clarence Acox Jr., Robert Knatt, and No Clue.



Garfield High School west entrance (left); and mural near Washington Middle School (above). The Central Seattle PRI focuses on these two schools and the surrounding community.

Central Seattle, Washington

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In 2011, the Washington State Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery launched the Prevention Redesign Initiative (PRI), a statewide effort to concentrate substance abuse prevention efforts in a small geographic area based upon need and community readiness. One of the selected PRI communities is in Central Seattle, also referred to as the Central Area or Central District, located east of downtown Seattle within the central core of the city. Historically, this is one of the most racially and ethnically diverse neighborhoods of Seattle. The Central Seattle PRI community consists of the following Seattle School District buildings and surrounding areas: Garfield High School (GHS) and Washington Middle School (WMS). The schools are located in an active neighborhood with single-family homes, multi-unit housing, a community swimming pool, parks and play fields, stores, restaurants, human services and health centers.

Organizational Overview

Seattle Public Schools, the largest K-12 school system in the state, has a good history of supporting prevention programs and collaborating with organizations, such as the Puget Sound Educational Service District's (PSED) Prevention Center and King County's Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Program (AODPP).

In 2008, Seattle Public Schools received a federal Drug Free Communities (DFC) grant of up to \$125,000 per year for 5 years with the opportunity to apply for a 5 year continuation grant. The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration oversee this grant that aims to: (1) *strengthen collaboration in the community to prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth; and (2) reduce substance use among youth and over time among adults.* Through the DFC grant, CSDFCC expanded and hired a coalition staff person, Randy Beaulieu, who has been the lead on different community and school prevention projects.

Community Resources

Central Seattle is a diverse community with key stakeholders involved in various efforts related to substance abuse prevention and crime prevention. The CSDFCC collaborates with the schools, human service providers, civic organizations, government, law enforcement, the faith community, health care organizations, and the private sector, including: Seattle Public Schools, Seattle Neighborhood Group; East Precinct Advisory Council; Therapeutic Health Services; Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative; Seattle Children's Hospital; Center for Human Services; Asian Counseling and Referral Services; and Northwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area.

PRI Contacts

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Central Seattle, King County, WA



CSDFCC members at a Seattle Neighborhood Group "Community Builder Awards" event (left to right): Randy Beaulieu, Coalition Coordinator; Denise Hamly, parent; and Derryl Durden, business community member.

The PRI focuses substance abuse prevention efforts in a small geographic area based upon need and community readiness. King County AODPP and PSES D staff analyzed various needs assessment data, including 84 indicators from the Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's Report Card and the Healthy Youth Survey (HYS). The data review, as well as determination of community readiness, confirmed the need to concentrate more prevention efforts in Central Seattle.

Substance Use Issues

According to 2010 data from the HYS, students from GHS and WMS generally drank alcohol and used other drugs at higher rates than other students in Washington State. In addition to community norms that support the use of drugs, contributing factors have been transitional issues due to soaring housing costs leading to gentrification and decreased community cohesiveness. Central Seattle has experienced ongoing problems with crime, violence and drugs; however, there has been a recent investment of resources to address these concerns.

Communities and Schools Working Together

CSDFCC has developed an action plan and identified specific strategies and activities addressing community challenges related to youth substance abuse and associated issues such as truancy, school drop out and violence. CSDFCC has collaborated with community partners on efforts including the "Corridors of Peace" mural project and the "Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design" process to assess areas conducive to drug use and crime.

As part of the PRI, PSES D has placed a full-time Prevention/Intervention Specialist (P/I S) at GHS and WMS. Therapeutic Health Services provided the matching funds required to launch the PRI. A key role of the P/I S is to assist with planning and implementing prevention strategies in these schools and in the surrounding community. King County AODPP assigned a part-time Community Coordinator, Jackie Berganio, who will manage the overall project including providing technical assistance and training, participating in CSDFCC meetings, and taking primary responsibility for reporting and evaluation.

Central Seattle

Population: 28,328 (Census 2000) 15,518 for CD/Squire Park 1,764 for GHS (May 2011) 1,067 for WMS (May 2011)	Ethnic Diversity (2010-2011):	Median Household Income: \$33,449
	GHS WMS	
	White 37.6% 27.4%	
	Black 30.1% 27.0%	
	Am. Indian/AK Na. 0.7% 1.3%	
	Asian/ Pacific Is. 23.4% 25.6%	
	Hispanic/ Latino 7.7% 11.7%	
	Multi-racial 0.5% 6.9%	
Zoning: Urban		CSDFCC Founded: 2008